

REMARKS

Claims 2-36 are currently pending in the application. The Examiner has required an election under 35 U.S.C. § 121 of one of the following allegedly patentably distinct species and subspecies of the claimed inventions:

Species I: Figures 1A-2;

Species II: Figure 3;

Species III: Figures 4A-C;

Species IV: Figure 5;

Species V: Figures 6-8.

Subspecies A1: Single Swivel Joint;

Subspecies A2: Double Swivel Joint;

Subspecies B1: Through-Bore in Joint;

Subspecies B1-1: Threaded;

Subspecies B1-2: Tapered;

Subspecies B1-3: Expandable Screw Head; and

Subspecies B2: No Through-Bore in Joint.

Specifically, the Examiner requires under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to elect a single disclosed species, a subspecies from both subspecies A and B, and if subspecies B1 is elected, a further election of threaded, tapered, or expandable head is required for prosecution on the merits. The Examiner states that claim 2 is generic.

In order to be fully responsive, Applicant hereby elects the invention of Species I, as depicted in Figures 1A-2, subspecies A1 (Single Swivel Joint), B1 (Through-Bore in Joint), and more specifically B1-1 (Threaded).

Application Serial No. 10/735,854
Art Unit: 3733


Applicant believes that pending claims 2-7, 13-16, 20, 30, and 31 are readable on the elected species and subspecies. Claim 2 is generic.

Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue the invention of the nonelected group of claims in a divisional application. Applicants also understand that if a generic claim is allowed, Applicant is entitled to consideration of claims drawn to the nonelected species that are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim.

No fee is believed due for this submission. Should any fees be required, however, please charge such fees to Jones Day Deposit Account No. 50-3013. An early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 29, 2007



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